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A. TEMPER OF WEST BERLIN POPULATION

RMR

PREOCCUPATION AMONG WEST SEGMENTS POPULATION WITH TREATMENT OF BERLIN PROBLEM AT FONMIN CONFERENCE HAS GIVEN WAY TO FEELING RELIEF THAT CONFERENCE LEFT BERLIN STATUS UNCHANGED. BERLINERS UNWORRIED ABOUT GENEVA DEADLOCK. THEY ASSUME EAST-WEST DISCUSSIONS AT HIGHEST LEVEL, ON WHICH THEY KNOW THEY CANNOT EXERT MUCH INFLUENCE, WILL BE PROTRACTED. GENERAL OPTIMISM BASED ON BELIEF TIME HAS BEEN GAINED AND SOVS NOT LIKELY MOVE AGAINST BERLIN WHILE EAST-WEST TALKS IN PROGRESS. BERLINERS ALSO CONTINUE FEEL CONFIDENCE IN CONTINUING U.S. SUPPORT AS RESULT SECRETARY'S VISIT WHICH STILL SUBJECT MUCH FAVORABLE COMMENT. UNPRECEDENTED ECONOMIC ACTIVITY WITH ALMOST FULL EMPLOYMENT (SEE BERLIN'S 174 DEPT, 161 BONN) IS IMPORTANT FACTOR BEHIND "NOTHING WILL HAPPEN TO US" ATTITUDE. HOWEVER, SOME LABOR LEADERS EXPRESS UNEASINESS ABOUT SIGNS OF OVER-CONFIDENCE IN LABOR RANKS ESPECIALLY WHITE COLLAR WORKERS.

BERLIN PUBLIC FREQUENTLY EXPRESSES OPINION VICE PRESIDENT'S MOSCOW-WARSZAW TRIP WAS SUCCESS FOR WEST AND THAT HE DEFTLY HANDLED DIFFICULT PROBLEM OF BEING TOUGH AND FIRM THOUGH COURTEOUS. SAME IS EXPECTED OF PRESIDENT WHOSE DECISION VISIT ADENAUER IN BONN IS REGARDED AS FURTHER DEMONSTRATION TO RUSSIA OF FIRMNESS OF U.S. POSITION AND AMERICAN REGARD FOR FEDREP ALLIANCE.

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-2- 186, AUGUST 15, NOON FROM BERLIN

B. CURRENT VIEWS WEST BERLIN POLITICAL LEADERS

THE FEW POLITICAL LEADERS NOT ON VACATION UNIFORMLY EXPRESS RELIEF SOVS REJECTED WESTERN COMPROMISE PLAN WHICH THEY FEEL IN SOME RESPECTS WENT BEYOND JUNE 16 WESTERN MEMORANDUM IN MEETING SOV POSITION. ENDING OF CONFERENCE IN SHADOW MOMENTOUS NEWS EISENHOWER-KHRUSHCHEV MEETING CONSIDERED FAR PREFERABLE TO EITHER BREAK-UP OF CONFERENCE WITH IMPLIED RESUMPTION DIRECT SOVIET THREAT AGAINST CITY OR IMPLEMENTATION OF "INTERIM SOLUTION."

THEY GENERALLY CONFIDENT INTERESTS OF CITY AND PRINCIPLES EXPRESSED BY SECRETARY WILL BE SAFEGUARDED IN FORTHCOMING EAST-WEST DISCUSSIONS. THEY DO HOWEVER EXPRESS MISGIVINGS THAT FACT KHRUSHCHEV INVITED TO U.S., AS WELL AS WORLDWIDE PUBLICITY RESULTING FROM HIS VISIT, MAY BENEFIT SOVS IN THREE RESPECTS: 1) MAN RESPONSIBLE FOR MASSACRE OF HUNGARIANS AND OTHERS WILL BECOME "INTERNATIONALLY RESPECTABLE"; 2) WORLD OPINION MAY BE LULLED INTO FALSE SENSE OF SECURITY AS WAS CASE AFTER GENEVA 1955 SUMMIT MEETING; 3) SOVS MAY THEN BE AT LEAST PARTLY SUCCESSFUL IN PRESENTING GERMAN AND ESPECIALLY BERLIN PROBLEMS TO U.S. PUBLIC AS ONLY OBSTACLES TO REAL DETENTE WITH DANGER THAT AMERICAN PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR BERLIN MAY DECLINE.

LEADERS DIVIDED WHETHER GENEVA WAS SUCCESS FOR WEST. ON POSITIVE SIDE THEY NOTE DEACTIVATING "DE-FUSING" OF SOV THREAT AGAINST BERLIN FOR TIME BEING; SOV LACK OF SUCCESS IN SPLITTING WESTERN FRONT ON MATTER OF PRINCIPLE; CONTINUATION OF INTERNATIONAL DISCUSSIONS DESPITE DEADLOCK OVER BERLIN. ON NEGATIVE SIDE THEY SEE SOV SUCCESS IN WHITTILING DOWN POSITION OF WESTERN POWERS FROM THAT EXPRESSED IN PARIS FONMIN AND NATO COMMUNIQUE OF LAST DECEMBER; DISCUSSION OF INTERIM SOLUTION MOVED ONTO WHAT THEY CONSIDERED DANGEROUS GROUND; SOVS GAINED OBJECTIVE OF A TOP LEVEL MEETING WITH SURPRISING RAPIDITY AND NO SIGNIFICANT CONCESSIONS.

ADMISSION EAST GERMAN REGIME INTO COUNCIL OF GREAT POWERS ALSO CONSIDERED SOV GAIN; WEST BERLIN POLITICAL LEA

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BELIEVE THIS DEVELOPMENT WILL WEAKEN EAST GERMAN POPULATION'S
BELIEF IN EVENTUAL LIBERATION AND INCREASE TENDENCY TOWARD
ACCOMMODATION SOVZONE REGIME.

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